

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-3 and 5-11 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 7-11 are amended to incorporate the features of claim 4, claim 5 is amended to change its dependency, claims 2, 3 and 6 are informally amended, and claim 4 is canceled. Thus, no new matter is added by this Amendment.

**I. Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 4 and 5 are allowable. To this end, each of independent claims 1 and 7-11 are amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 4.

For the foregoing reasons, claims 1 and 7-11, as well as the claims depending therefrom are in condition for allowance.

**II. Objection to the Abstract**

The Office Action suggests that the Abstract be amended to be in proper format. The Abstract is herein amended as suggested.

**III. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and §103(a)**

Claims 1, 2 and 6-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,469,744 (Pearlstein); and claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Pearlstein in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/014969 (Cok). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

As discussed above, each of independent claims 1 and 7-11 are amended to incorporate allowable subject matter. Accordingly, each of claims 1 and 7-11, as well as the claims depending therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

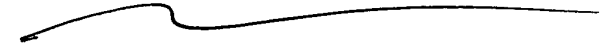
Accordingly, these rejections are moot. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

**IV. Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:  
Replacement Abstract

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